

Britain In Positive Terms Told 'Blockade' Ineffective, Illegal And Indefensible

United States Sends Note
Covering Exhaustively
British Interference with
American Trade Since the
Beginning of War

INTERNATIONAL LAW
MUST PREVAIL

America "Unhesitatingly
Assumes" Task of Cham-
pioning Integrity of Her
Neutral Rights; Will De-
vote Energies to that End

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 7.—The United States in its latest note to Great Britain made public here today, covering exhaustively British interference with American trade since the beginning of the European war, declared that the so-called blockade instituted by the allies against enemy countries on March 11, is "ineffective, illegal and indefensible." Notice is served that the American government "cannot submit to the curtailment of its neutral right and it cannot with complacency suffer further subordination of its rights and interests."

Ambassador Page, to whom the note was sent by special messenger for delivery to the London foreign office, was instructed by Secretary Lansing "to impress most earnestly upon the British government that the United States 'must insist that the relations between it and its Majesty's government be governed, not by a policy of expediency but by those established rules of international conduct to which Great Britain in the past has held the United States to account when the latter nation was a belligerent engaged in a struggle for national existence.'"

Declaring the United States "unhesitatingly assumes" the task of championing the integrity of neutral rights, the note proclaims that the American government will devote its energies to the task, exercising always an impartial attitude.

The note, nearly 15,000 words in length, was made public by agreement between the State Department and the British Foreign Office. It carries with it a voluminous appendix giving the text of American naval instructions issued in 1862 and a summary and table showing hundreds of vessels detained by British authorities since the beginning of the present war.

The body of the note is divided into 15 points, dealing with all phases of the contraband question, seizures and detentions, prior to, as well as after, the so-called blockade was instituted, and announces that a separate communication will be sent soon dealing particularly with "the property and right of the British government to include in their list of contraband of war certain articles which have been so included."

In conclusion, after an argument on the law and facts, Secretary Lansing says: "I believe it has been conclusively shown that the methods sought to be employed by Great Britain to obtain and use evidence of enemy destination of cargoes bound for neutral ports and to impose a contraband character upon such cargoes are without justification; that the blockade, upon which such methods are partly founded, is ineffective, illegal and indefensible; that the judicial procedure offered as a means of reparation for an international injury is inherently defective for the purpose; and that in many cases jurisdiction is asserted in violation of the law of nations. The United States, therefore, cannot submit to the curtailment of its neutral rights by these measures, which are admittedly retaliatory and therefore illegal, in conception and in nature, and in-

IS SPONSOR FOR
NOTE TO BRITAIN



President Wilson

tended to punish the enemies of Great Britain for alleged illegalities on their part. The United States might not be in a position to object to them if its interests and the interests of all neutrals were unaffected by them, but being affected, it cannot with complacency suffer further subordination of its rights and in this to the plea that exceptional geographic position of the enemies of Great Britain require of justly oppressive and illegal practices.

The government of the United States desires therefore to impress most earnestly upon His Majesty's government that it must insist that the relations between it and His Majesty's government be governed, not by a policy of expediency but by those established rules of international conduct upon which Great Britain in the past has held the United States to account when the latter nation was a belligerent engaged in a struggle for national existence. It is of the highest importance to neutrals not only of the present day but of the future that the principles of international right may be maintained and unimpaired. This task of championing the integrity of neutral rights, which have received the sanction of the civilized world against the lawless conduct of belligerents arising out of the bitterness of the great conflict which is

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Press Of Nation
Comments On Note

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

NEW YORK SUN: The note reflects exactly American sentiment and describes accurately American purpose. We stand upon the law and demand that Great Britain shall obey the law; and in this administration only expresses the will of the American people.

NEW YORK WORLD: On such a showing of outrage as is here made, the terms of the American protest must be regarded as exceedingly temperate. To gain a military advantage more or less important, Great Britain has become an offender against laws; against its own cherished principles; against several of the small nations of Europe, which it has assumed to champion and against the best and most powerful friend that it has among the neutrals of the earth. It has not killed Americans; it has killed American rights. It has done more than seize American property; it has seized the opportunity thus wantonly gained to extend its own trade.

NEW YORK HERALD: Upon international law, as this existed before the outbreak of the present world conflict, the government of the United States rests its case. On behalf of what it holds to be right of neutral commerce, it will bring to bear the full strength of its diplomacy. For fullest reparation for the damage done to American commerce, it will insist with all its strength.

BALTIMORE AMERICAN: Great Britain has indulged in no murderous work, but she has destroyed millions of dollars of American property. This is the gravest charge the United States can bring against her, but it is a mighty serious charge, one that may endanger the friendship of the two great English speaking nations.

BOSTON ADVERTISER: The note states the American case very strongly. But, for that matter, so did the note which was first sent to

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Secretary Robert Lansing.

LONDON PAPERS JUSTIFY MEANS OF WINNING WAR

Attitude Generally Is that
Britain Is Engaged in Life
and Death Struggle and
Any Action She May
Adopt Is Warranted

POINT TO THE
GERMAN METHODS

Orders-in-Council Were in
Reply to Germany's Re-
pudiation of all Interna-
tional Law, Showing In-
difference to Neutrals

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

LONDON, Nov. 8.—The attitude taken by the London morning newspapers in commenting on the American note to Great Britain is generally that, although the points raised are not open to argument, Great Britain's position is that she is engaged in a life and death struggle, and therefore, has to consider all questions on the practicable basis of winning the war; that such a world war is bound to carry some inconveniences to neutrals; but that as far as is possible, and consistent with doing everything in her power to win the war, she will be careful to do as little as possible to injure the interests of neutrals.

After quoting the American arguments, the Daily Mail says: "Our case—it is a very strong one—is that the orders-in-council were in reply to Germany's repudiation of all international law. The power which wickedly torpedoed neutral ships and ships with neutral passengers, and which sowed the sea with mines, showed complete indifference for those neutral rights of which the United States declares itself the unhesitating champion."

"We waited for the neutrals to act, and as they did not act, we acted ourselves in the interests of humanity. The doctrines which we applied are, in essence, those laid down by the United States courts in the Civil War."

The Daily News remarks on the fact that in the note is couched

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DRIVE RUSSIAN PRISONERS OUT TO THE FRONT

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

PETROGRAD, Nov. 7.—The political crisis in Greece, which has clouded the Balkans, has been finally overcome. M. Skouloudis having accepted and performed the task of organizing a cabinet, which, being composed of all the members of the Zaimis government, with the exception of the ex-premier himself, will carry on the former government's policy of maintaining neutrality.

The new cabinet is at the mercy of the Venizelos majority in the chamber, but the impression is that no attempt will be made to turn it out, thus avoiding dissolution of parliament and a consequent election, the result of which could not be predicted, while the army remains mobilized.

While the allies now can have little hope of Greece siding with them in the defense of Serbia, the belief is still held here that it is not too late to turn the tables on the invaders. The departure for the east of Lord Kitchener, after conferences in Paris with Premier Briand, General Joffre, the war min-

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Manzanillo Is Looted By Force Of Carranza Men

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Instead of seeking the enemy, the officers of the Solano, said, the Carranza men looted the shoe and clothing stores. Policemen who tried to interfere were overcome and women and children were injured, according to the steamship officers, in the free for all fight which ensued.

NEW GREEK CABINET IS FORMED AND CRISIS IS FINALLY OVERCOME

Skouloudis Accomplishes
Task Assigned Him by
King Constantine, Retain-
ing all Members of Zaimis
Ministry

IMMEDIATELY TAKE
OATH OF OFFICE

Press Urges Advisability of
Going on Without Disso-
lution of Parliament and
New General Elections
Throughout Greece

LONDON, Nov. 8.—M. Skouloudis, the new Greek premier, has declared his intention of observing an attitude of very benevolent neutrality toward the belligerent powers.

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

ATHENS, Nov. 7.—M. Skouloudis, commissioned by King Constantine to form a new cabinet, has accomplished the task. All the members of the Zaimis ministry are retained except the premier himself. The new prime minister has taken the portfolio of foreign affairs. The formation of the new cabinet, it is generally assumed will delay, if not eliminate, the crisis which probably would follow dissolution of the chamber of deputies by the king.

The cabinet is composed of the following ministers, who took the oath of office today: Premier and minister of foreign affairs, M. Skouloudis; minister of public instruction, M. Michellidakis; minister of justice and communications, D. G. Rhalis; minister of interior, M. Gounaris; minister of national economy, M. Theotokis; minister of war, General Yanakitsas; minister of marine, Ad. Countouriotis; minister of finance, Stephen Dragoumis.

Besides the premier, M. Michellidakis is the only new member of the cabinet. The office he takes formerly was held by M. Theotokis, who becomes minister of national economy, a new post. The press urges the advisability of going on without a dissolution of parliament and new general elections. M. Skouloudis is not a deputy, but is regarded as an able diplomat known chiefly for the part he played in the London peace conference in 1912, after the Balkan war. He was minister of foreign affairs in the Rhalis cabinet in 1897. He is reported to be favorably disposed toward the quadruple entente.

Crisis Is Overcome

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OFFICIALS TAKE UP PROTEST OF OBREGON AGAINST CAROTHERS

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

DOUGLAS, Nov. 7.—American officials here have taken up with Washington the protest of General Obregon against the presence here of George C. Carothers, agent of the state department. Carothers, enroute from El Paso, is expected to return tomorrow in which event, it is understood, General Carranza himself will protest to Washington on the ground that Carothers is partial to Villa.

Unaware of Protest

EL PASO, Nov. 7.—George C. Carothers, special agent of the state department, who arrived here today from Douglas, Arizona, showed surprise at press reports which yesterday stated that General Obregon had protested to General Funston against Carothers' appearance on the border near Agua Prieta because of Carothers' long association with the Villa government as representative of the state department.

"I doubted that General Obregon had made any protest," he said. "I talked with General Funston after his

INFORM THE ALLIES
SENTENCED TO DIE

AMSTERDAM, via London, Nov. 7.—A dispatch from Brussels, by way of Berlin, says: "A field court-martial has sentenced to death three Belgians and condemned another to twelve years' imprisonment. Since February, 1915, the condemned had noted all military transports proceeding to and returning from the front along two railway lines, which information they communicated to the allies. The sentences were confirmed and executed."

FRENCH REPORT TAKING GERMAN ADVANCE POSTS

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

PARIS, Nov. 7.—German advance posts before Verdun were captured and an attack against French positions east of the Butte Le Mesnil was easily repulsed, says the statement issued this afternoon at the French war office.

The communication follows: "Between the Somme and the Oise we captured German posts before Verdun and checked by curtains of fire activity of the enemy in the sector of Neuvaigues."

In Champagne an attack with grenades attempted by the Germans against our positions to the east of the Butte Le Mesnil was easily repulsed.

In the Vosges the fighting commenced yesterday at La Chapelle continued during the night. Our field guns efficiently countered the mine throwers of the enemy.

German aeroplanes dropped eight bombs in the region of Dunkirk. A boy was wounded and insignificant material damaged.

Army of the East: The day was calm on Nov. 5. There is nothing to report regarding our advance from Krivolak, on the front of the Crema river we continued our progress on the Tabacon side."

A foreign official communication issued by the war office tonight, says:

"Especially intense fighting with trench guns is reported in Belgium, in the region of Het Sas and Boesinghe."

In Artois, between the Somme and the Oise and in Champagne, violent artillery engagements took place during the course of the day, more particularly localized in the sectors of the Givenchy wood and Neuvaigues and in the neighborhood of Tathure.

"One of our mines destroyed at Hill 235, in the Argonne, a German sap in which the enemy was working."

"There has been no variation of importance on the rest of the front."

Army of the East: There was no infantry action during the day of Nov. 6, toward Radvova. Our troops consolidated the positions conquered. Before Krivolak the Bulgarians renewed their violent attacks during the whole of the day of Nov. 5, but were each time repulsed."

The Belgian official communication reads:

"Calm prevails along this front."

VILLA REACHES NAGO, NOW ON WAY TO NOGALES

With Most of His Artillery
and Cavalry He Arrives
at Border Town, Then
Departs With but Small
Escort

CALLES REMAINS
IN AGUA PRIETA

Border Folk, Accustomed to
War Alarms, Are Now
Settling Down in Absence
of Any Prospect of an
Immediate Battle

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

DOUGLAS, Nov. 7.—General Francisco Villa, with most of his artillery and cavalry, arrived today at Naco, Sonora, a border town a few miles west of Agua Prieta, whence he withdrew recently following a two days' battle with the Carranza forces under Gen. P. Elias Calles.

Just what the intentions of Villa are is not generally known, but his retirement to Naco is taken in Mexican circles here to mean that Villa is preparing to take the defensive.

General Calles remains in Agua Prieta and with Gen. Alvaro Obregon is preparing to carry out orders said to have been received for the extermination of Villa's army. Obregon's immediate plans have not been disclosed.

Border folk, accustomed to Mexican war alarms, however were settling down today, in the absence of any prospect of a battle within possibly a month or six weeks.

Gen. Manuel Diez, the Carranza commander, who for months has been reported proceeding slowly from the west coast, is at Hermosillo, according to information received by both Carranza and Villa agents. His presence at the capital of Sonora probably was the factor that determined Villa not to carry out his announced intention of occupying the inner of the state, and awaiting future battle there. Apparently he did not wish to be caught between Diez's arms on the south and Obregon on the north.

Twenty-six Americans at Culiacan were still safe today, despite the treatment accorded Doctors Thigpen and Miller and the two chauffeurs who were three threatened with death by Villa.

Dr. Thigpen came here tonight at the request of General Obregon.

The Americans at Culiacan are in charge of the water and lighting plants of the Cananea Consolidated Copper company, and because no Mexicans there are considered competent to keep the machinery running, little fear is felt for the safety of the Americans.

In addition there are in the Cananea district and the vicinity a number of other Americans who have spent more years in Mexico and who feel that they will be safe under any circumstances.

Major General Funston, commander of the southern department of the United States army who has decided to remain on the border for the present, departed today for Naco, Ariz.

Villa, who left Naco early today, ostensibly for Cananea, was reported tonight to be on his way to Nogales. He is said to have only a small escort.

Private telephone messages from Nogales tonight stated the Mexican town was quiet.

There are about 500 Mexican soldiers in the Nogales garrison under command of Colonel Terrazas, who is said to have usurped the functions of Acting Governor Carlos Randall.

The troops on the American side are the Twelfth Infantry and a detachment of the Tenth cavalry.

Carranza Leaves Border

PIEDRAS, Negras, Nov. 7.—General Venustiano Carranza left the border today on a special train, accompanied by his staff and John W. Belt, special representative of the United States. General Carranza will stop first at Hermosillo, Culiacan, for several days before proceeding to Monterrey, and

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Jap Steamer Sunk At Gibraltar By German Submarine

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

TOKIO, Nov. 7.—The Japan steamer Yasakuni Maru, 5,118 tons gross, was sunk by a German submarine near Gibraltar Wednesday. The captain and crew reached shore safely.

The Yasakuni Maru evidently was the victim of one of the German submarines which have passed safely through the Straits of Gibraltar into the Mediterranean sea to undertake a campaign against the merchant shipping of the allies, and already have sunk several vessels.

The Yasakuni Maru sailed from New York October 6, for Oran, Algeria, and arrived at Gibraltar on October 23.

Bulgars Force Timok And Take Many Serbians

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

BERLIN, Nov. 7.—(By wireless to Sayville)—An official statement issued at Bulgarian headquarters at Sofia regarding the operations on November 3, follows:

"Bulgarian troops forced a passage of the Timok (a river which forms part of the boundary between Bulgaria and Serbia) at Krivovar and captured 500 Serbians with six cannon."

"Bulgarians reached the forts of Nish."

"Considerable French forces which attacked south of Strumitsa were repulsed."

Lord Kitchner Confers With Premier Briand

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

PARIS, Nov. 7.—Lord Kitchener, British secretary for war, before leaving for the near east, conferred with Premier Briand, Minister of War Gaillet and General Joffre, the French commander-in-chief.

The dispatch contains the first hint of the route taken by Lord Kitchener in proceeding to the Orient. It apparently bears out the report in London that his mission includes an effort to co-ordinate the work of the general staffs of the allied armies.

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Rioting And Disorder Marks Sunday In Wilkesbarre

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Nov. 7.—With thousands of men and boys idle today, rioting and disorder by sympathizers of the striking motomen and conductors of the Wilkesbarre Railway company, which is attempting to operate cars with strike breakers, assumed serious proportions. Six riots occurred during the day and three men, one a policeman, were seriously injured and several cars were wrecked.

In the borough of Edwardsville, a detail of state police broke up a crowd of 600 men and boys who had stoned a car and driven the crew to shelter.

Indignation against the strike breakers assumed such serious proportions that officials of the company decided to stop the operation of cars on the half dozen lines that have been kept open since Friday. No cars have been run after night fall.